Order 2001-4-28

Served: April 25, 2001



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C.

Issued by the Department of Transportation on the 20th day of April, 2001

Essential Air Service at

CHISANA, ALASKA

under 49 U.S.C. 41731 et seq.

Docket OST-1998-4574- 4

ORDER RELYING ON CARRIER TO PROVIDE NONSUBSIDIZED ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE

Summary

By this order, the Department will rely on 40-Mile Air. Ltd., to provide nonsubsidized essential air service at Chisana, Alaska.

Background

By order 98-12-22, issued December 16, 1998, the Department selected 40-Mile Air, Ltd., to provide essential air service at Chisana, Alaska, for a two-year period. An annual subsidy rate of \$12,428 was agreed to for service consisting of two nonstop round trips each week between Chisana and Tok with Cessna 206 or 207 aircraft.

The rate term for 40-Mile Air's service at Chisana expired on December 31, 2000. The staff recently contacted the carrier to determine whether it was interested in continuing its subsidized service at the community.

By letter dated March 8, 2001, 40-Mile Air stated that, at the present time, it would continue providing service to Chisana without subsidy.

Decision

In view of the fact that 40-Mile Air has been providing reliable subsidized essential air service at Chisana for a number of years, and has now has agreed to continue providing service at Chisana without subsidy support, the Department will rely on the carrier to

provide this service as stated, consisting of at least two nonstop round trips each week between Chisana and Tok. Although 40-Mile Air feels it no longer needs subsidy support at this time, Chisana continues to be guaranteed essential air service. Therefore, if the carrier in the future were to decide it wanted to terminate service at Chisana, it would first have to file a 90-day notice with the community and us.

This order is issued under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.56a(f).

ACCORDINGLY

- 1. The Department will rely on 40 Mile Air, Ltd., to provide nonsubisidzed essential air service at Chisana, Alaska, effective January 1, 2001, the end of the carrier's most recent contract, consisting of at least two nonstop round trips each week between Chisana and Tok; and
- 2. We will serve a copy of this order on the civic officials of Chisana, the Governor of Alaska, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and 40 Mile Air.

By:

SUSAN MCDERMOTT

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs

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